This Ministry is ready to take up the work after the signing of MOU and deposit of money by SAIL, and other parties.

Since this line would be a project oriented one, and would also serve the backward and tribal areas, the project would be assigned category 'A' once the MOU is signed and the work is taken up. The target for completion of the line would be fixed once the work is started.

[English]

Construction of Railway Line

*447 SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to construct railway line from Lanjigarh Road to Ambaguda in the recent past and the same has been approved upto Janagad in the Waltair Division of the South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct rail line between Junagad-Ambaguda in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Construction of a new line from Lanjigarh Road to Junagarh only has been sanctioned. There is no proposal for construction of a railway line between Junagarh and Ambaguda in the near future.

(c) Does not arise.

Freedom Fighters Pension

*448 SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government consider extension of time beyond July 31, 1981 to enable the remaining Freedom Fighters (Swatantrata Sainiks) to avail Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension in their old age;

(b) whether the Government consider and approve the major events of the Freedom struggle, viz. Kayyur, Morazha, Punnapra-Vayalar in Kerala in the approved list of Freedom struggle movement in the country; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The last date for receipt of applications for grant of freedom fighters pension was 31-3-1982. Applications received after the prescribed date are also considered by the Government provided the same are accompained by documentary evidence from official records which could prove suffering of atleast six months imprisonment/ excterment/internment/under-ground suffering or loss of job etc. No last date is fixed now.

Participation in the Kayyur, Morazha and punnapra-Vayalar movements in Kerala as a part of Freedom Struggle is being reconsidered in consultation with the State Government of Kerala.

[Translation]

National Agriculture Production Index

*449. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Index for National Agricultural Production (Anawari Report) was determined along with the details thereof;

(b) whether any changes have been incorporated therein; and

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Annawari system of estimating agricultural production was introduced when the system of preparation of crop forecasts was initiated in the country. The preparation of crop forecasts was initiated with wheat crop in 1884 followed by rice, cotton, jute, sesamum, linseed the rapeseed and mustard in 1885. Later on more crops were brought under the purview of Crop Forecasting/Estimation system. The system of estimating crop yield/production based under traditional method (Annawari System) was continued till the scientific method of yield estimation of major crops on the basis of crop cutting experiments was introduced sometime in early fifties. The index of agricultural production which indicate the relative change in production of crops with respect to base period, are available for the period 1949-50 to 1994-95 with triennium ending 1981-82 = 100 as the base.

(b) The production estimates are now prepared based on estimation of yield through organizing scientifically designed crop cutting experiments. The coverage of crops and area under this method of estimation of production is being increased over years. Presently, about 46 crops are covered under the scientifically designed crop estimation surveys and construction of index number of agricultural production in the country.

(c) The change in the method of estimation of production from "Annawari" to scientifically designed crop cutting experiments was mainly aimed at improving the reliability of estimates of production as the former method was supposed to be subjective in nature.

[English]

Production of Oilseeds

*450. SHRI B. DHARMABIKSHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is facing acute edible oil deficiency due to shortfall in the production of oilseeds and increase in their prices;

(b) if so, the total production of oilseeds in each State as against the targets fixed during 1995-96,

(c) the reasons for shortfall in the production of oilseeds and hike in their prices;

(d) the specific steps proposed to be taken to achieve self-sufficiency in the oilseeds production; and

(e) the amount allocated for the purpose to each State for 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As compared to the estimated demand of 72.54 lakh tonnes of edible oils during the oil year (November-October 1995-96), the production of edible oils is of the order of 66.70 lakh tonnes showing a gap of about 6 lakh tonnes between the total requirement and net availability of edible oils from all domestic sources. There is, however, no shortfall in the production of oilseeds, rather a record production of 22.9 million tonnes hasn bee estimated during 1995-96. This has resulted in lower average wholesale price index of oilseeds from January to July, 1996 at 279.8 as compared to 284.9 for the corresponding period in the year 1995.

(b) The Statewise targets and actual production is given in statement I attached.

(c) There is neither any shortfall in production nor hike in their prices.

(d) In order to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of oilseeds, a well-defined production strategy is under implementation through a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme. This programme is under implementation in 22 States in the country. The financial assistance is provided for various critical inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, rhyzobium culture, gypsum/pyrite, improved farm implements, plant protection equipments, sprinkler sets etc. In addition, frontline and general demonstrations are organized on farmers' fields to transfer the production technology.

(e) A statement-II attached.

STATEMENT-I

(Lakh Tonnes)

Sl. No.	State	Production Target	Achievement in production
1.	2.	3.	4.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25.00	30.06
2.	Assam	1.90	1.94
3.	Bihar	1.80	1.54
4.	Gujarat	29.00	22.63
5.	Haryana	8.50	8.97
6.	Jammu& Kashmir	0.50	0.43
7.	Karnataka	16.70	15.82
8.	Madhya Pradesh	42.00	49.82
9.	Maharashtra	22.00	21.10
10.	Orissa	7.50	3.28
11.	Punjab	2.70	2.93
12.	Rajasthan	27.20	31.46
13.	Tamil Nadu	17.20	17.40
14.	Uttar Pradesh	15.50	15.00
15.	West Bengal	4.60	5.49
16.	Others	0.90	1.10
	Total	225.00	228.97

STATEMENT-II

S. No.	State	Allocation
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1433.33
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.33
3.	Assam	206.66
4.	Bihar	133.33
5.	Gujarat	666.66
6.	Haryana	233.33
7.	Himachal Pradesh	40.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	93.00
9.	Karnataka	800.00
10.	Kerala	66.66
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1613.00
12.	Maharashtra	1366.66
13.	Manipur	106.66
14.	Meghalaya	20.00
15.	Orissa	600.00
16.	Punjab	133.33
17.	Rajasthan	1433.33
18.	Sikkim	66.66
19.	Tamil Nadu	1133.33
20.	Tripura	33.33
21.	Uttar Pradesh	733.33
22.	West Bengal	333.33
	Total	11291.92

Wagon Manufacturing Unit

*451. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a wagon manufacturing unit at Chitradurga in Karanataka; and

(b) the time by which the said unit is likely to become functional?